

Joseph M. Martin to the United States Army and the American people.

General Joseph M. Martin has served our nation honorably for over thirty-five years. A native of Dearborn, Michigan, General Martin graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1986 and commissioned as an Armor officer. General Martin successfully led and commanded soldiers during peacetime and combat at all levels of leadership including platoon, company, battalion, brigade, and division.

General Martin's record of exemplary combat leadership includes Bravo Company, 4th Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, 1st Infantry Division during Operation Desert Storm, 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, 4th Infantry Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom, 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division in Northwest Baghdad, Iraq, and the 1st Infantry Division in Operation Inherent Resolve. General Martin also commanded the Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command during the Battle of Mosul, leading a multi-national force retaking the city from Islamic State militants over a seven-month long fight. In total, General Martin has led soldiers on a total of five combat deployments to Iraq across different conflicts and considers himself to always be a "Big Red One" soldier from his many years in America's 1st Division.

General Martin is not just an exceptional combat leader, but has also dedicated years to developing soldiers and the Army's future leaders. Serving first as an observer controller and later as the commanding general of the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California, General Martin trained and certified Army units in a highly realistic combat training environment that replicated the type of battlefield seen by U.S. soldiers over the last thirty years. He has also served as an instructor at the U.S. Armor Center, training officers and developing policy and procedures to increase warfighting proficiency. As the Army's Vice Chief of Staff, General Martin has focused on the Army's modernization efforts, building capabilities for future conflicts during a critical time for our national security.

General Martin and his family have also served their communities throughout his distinguished career. He was recognized by the University of Louisville, where he earned a Master of Education in Occupational Training and Development in 1997, as their Alumnus of the Year for 2021.

General Martin's lifetime of service and leadership to his fellow soldiers is commendable, speaking not only to his patriotism, but also to his selfless character. The Army is more prepared to face the strategic threats to our national security today because of his decades of dedication to the mission. The American people owe him a debt of gratitude.

HONORING GEORGE WASHINGTON
GARRETT

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a patriotic American, George Wash-

ington Garrett, as he approaches his 100th birthday. Mr. Garrett lives in Montgomery County, Kentucky.

Mr. Garrett was born on June 7, 1922, in Mt. Sterling, KY. He was inducted into the United States Army on January 29, 1943. Mr. Garrett served in Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe as part of the 989th Quartermaster Service Co. For his brave service to our nation, Mr. Garrett was awarded the World War II Victory Medal and the European African Middle Eastern Service Ribbon with five Bronze Stars. Following the war's end, he was honorably discharged on November 19, 1945.

On Veterans Day in 2020, Mr. Garrett was presented with a Quilt of Valor Award from the Quilts of Valor Foundation in appreciation of his service.

It is my honor to recognize Mr. Garrett, celebrate his 100th birthday and thank him for his service and sacrifice to our nation during World War II. As a part of "The Greatest Generation", Mr. Garrett and his fellow soldiers fought to preserve the freedoms that we enjoy today, and we can never thank them enough. I am forever grateful for Americans like George Washington Garrett.

CELEBRATING LEON VALDRY ON
HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Leon E. Valdry, on his 90th birthday.

Mr. Leon E. Valdry, a native of Bueche, Louisiana (a country community in Baton Rouge Louisiana), born June 7, 1932, celebrated his 90th birthday on Saturday June 4, 2022. The function was held in Louisiana at the Valdry Center for Philanthropy located on the beautiful campus of Southern University.

Mr. Valdry came from humble beginnings but has established himself as a real estate icon currently living in Beverly Hills, California. He is a philanthropist and the largest donor to his beloved alma mater Southern University in which he graduated 1957 in engineering. In 2019, Southern University opened the doors to the Valdry Center School of Philanthropy an academically based research center focused on Philanthropies named after him and his brother. It is the only HBCU Philanthropy Center in the country.

Leon Valdry believes that consistent financial support from alumni is critical to Southern University's growth and longevity. "As alumni, it is imperative that we give back to the University. Every graduate regardless of the amount they are able to give, should make a financial contribution annually," said Valdry. On March 21, 2015, Leon Valdry made a unrestricted gift of \$100,000 to the Southern University System Foundation's 1880 Society. Valdry is a long-time supporter of the Southern University College of Business and a member of the 1880 Society, P.B.S. Pinchback Circle. The P.B.S. Pinchback Circle requires an annual cash contribution of no

less than \$25,000 to the Society. He is still a member.

Philanthropy for Valdry has been a way of life for more than 50 years. The training he received while he was a student at Southern University, provided Valdry with an opportunity to secure his first job with the Litho Art Company in Los Angeles, California. Since that time, he has made a name for himself in real estate development throughout Louisiana and California. His real estate ventures consist of residential, commercial, and industrial properties. Valdry is a resident of Beverly Hills, California and is President/CEO of Holly Park Plaza in Inglewood, California, which is one of the largest shopping centers in the city of Los Angeles.

The Valdry Center for Philanthropy at Southern University acknowledges the sizable contributions that Leon, Warren, and Virginia Valdry have made to their alma mater, and the need to support excellence in education at HBCUs by endeavoring to create a culture of philanthropy, promote racial equity, and provide a trained workforce to help direct volunteer action and charitable resources toward communities in need.

He is a member of the Democratic Party and has made contributions throughout the years. Mr. Valdry looks forward to attending any upcoming Democratic functions in Beverly Hills. He has blessed both communities in Louisiana and Beverly Hills by assisting young adults/students with their academic journey. He is a devout Catholic and is a member of the Usher Team at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Beverly Hills California. He is also an Army Veteran. President Biden joined in the celebration, celebrating Mr. Valdry for his love, kindness, generosity, and time to humanity.

A huge Congratulations and Birthday Wishes to Louisiana's native Son.

HONORING ZEAL SABALLA

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Zeal Saballa, upon his acceptance to the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

As a future midshipman, he will be joining the ranks of the world's most elite naval force, guided by the motto: "Acta Non Verba."

The service and sacrifice of America's military personnel have safeguarded our Nation since its inception, defending our way of life from Lexington to Normandy.

A vital part of our nation's maritime operations, the Merchant Marine's duties are dynamic—transporting cargo and passengers during peacetime and serving as an auxiliary to the United States Navy during times of war.

I was glad to sponsor Zeal's nomination, as his dynamism reflects the mission of the branch which he will soon serve. I am confident that his talents will distinguish him among his peers during his time at the Academy and thereafter.

I congratulate Zeal, and know that he will make this Nation proud.